## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN CP-11 – ESTABLISHED TREES

I accept responsibility for maintaining the Tree Planting established under this contract for the life of the contract and agree to conduct periodic inspections and perform all needed maintenance in a timely manner.

This shall include, but not be limited to:

- 1. Prevent animal damage and browse by rodents, mice, rabbits, deer, gophers, and other wildlife which adversely affect woody vegetative cover.
- 2. Prevent disturbance of cover during the primary nesting season for wildlife as established by FSA.
- 1. Control all noxious weeds as identified by state and local laws, by; (1) treating with chemicals per label directions, or (2) spot mow before seed heads form. When possible delay use of control measures until after August 1<sup>st</sup> to protect nesting wildlife. Spot treatment on problem areas may be authorized by FSA during the primary nesting season.
- 4. Protect the acres from haying and grazing. Fences may need to be constructed and maintained to exclude livestock throughout all 12 months of each year.
- 5. Replace dead trees and or shrubs, as necessary, and control undesired vegetative competition to promote a fully functional tree planting. Control weed and grass competition around trees and shrubs for a minimum of 2 to 4 feet using cultivation, mulch, or chemical control measures. Mechanical cultivation needs to be kept shallow to avoid damaging tree and shrub root systems.
- 6. Periodically inspect for rilling, gullying, and concentrated flow erosion. Repair disturbed areas and revegetate areas that may need to have permanent cover.
- 7. Avoid direct spray applications and spray drift when applying herbicides on adjacent cropland.
- 8. Control insects and diseases damaging the vegetation. If you use pesticide to treat a problem read and follow label directions carefully.
- 9. Do not apply animal/livestock waste or municipal and industrial waste.
- 10. Do not use the planted area for field roads, turn areas, or other uses that will damage or destroy the vegetation.
- 11. Prune trees, as necessary, to remove dead or damaged branches, maintain a single leader and upright form.

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